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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Weekly OB. Political. and Economic  
Summary

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**A. Political-Economic****1. SED Reactions to the Conclusion of the Negotiations between Bonn and Moscow.**

In connection with the conclusion of the West German-Soviet agreement, a high-ranking SED functionary stated that the SED could not fully understand the attitude taken by Moscow vis-à-vis West Germany. Thus, for instance, the USSR had recently offered bituminous coal deliveries to West Germany, although this coal was not needed there; on the other hand, Moscow kept on telling Pankow that it was not in a position to increase Soviet bituminous coal exports to the GDR. The conclusion of the repatriation agreement between West Germany and the USSR was even more difficult to understand. It is true, that the GDR Foreign Ministry had been informed that Germans would only be repatriated from the USSR after prior consultation with the GDR; this assurance was, however, only considered as an empty gesture, [redacted].

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Comment. The SED reacts to the recently concluded German/Soviet agreement almost in the same way as to Chancellor Adenauer's visit to Moscow in 1955 and to the settlement concerning the release of German P/Ws. It is well possible that Moscow, just as in 1955, will conclude corresponding agreements also with Pankow.)

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**B. Armed Forces**

**I. USSR and "United" Forces (Warsaw Pact)**

**Higher Echelon Organization and Personnel**

1. On 9 April 1958, the death of "Hero of the Soviet Army", Army Gen I.Ye. Petrov was reported (press).

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Accordingly, a Chief Inspectorate exists in the USSR Ministry of Defense and presumably special departments for inspection of all weapons.

2. On 23 February 1958, Maj Gen Georgi Yefimovich Stogni mentioned as Commander of Northern Group of Forces in Poland (Press).

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Stogni has succeeded Army Gen K.N. Galitski as Commander of the Transcaucasian MD

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C. ArmyI. USSR (GDR)1. Troop Movementsa. Withdrawal of Soviet Troops from the GDR to the USSR

- (1) 4 Apr, AAA unit with 14x85-mm AA guns, appr 200 soldiers, and 14 officers from Briesen airfield, entrained at Brand railroad station. Shpmt left in direction Frankfurt/Oder [redacted]

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[redacted] Comment. Presum return shpmts of add elms u/i AAA unit from Brand-Briesen to the USSR. On 21 Mar, already two AAA batteries had been entrained there.

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- (2) During night betw 5 and 6 Apr, Luebben Jaeger-Kaserne [redacted] has been vacated by tank unit marching eastward [redacted].

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[redacted] Comment. Presum remaining elms 9th Mees Div Tank Regt were involved; [redacted]

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- (3) 4-7 Apr, AAA and arty units from unknown posts entrained at Luebben railroad station. Shpmts left in direction Cottbus.

8 Apr, Arty and AA units with 35 flatcars loaded with 152 (?)mm hows, 76-mm field guns, 85-mm AA guns, 82-mm mortars, appr 30 flatcars loaded with trucks, appr 27 boxcars with some 500 soldiers and 45 officers were entrained at Luebben railroad station and left in direction Cottbus allegedly to Queben.

7 Apr, units were assembled in Jaeger-Kaserne.

25 Apr, Arty unit allegedly left Luebben post.

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[redacted] Comment. Assembly and withdrawal of arty and AAA units from Luebben in at least five shipments indicates that, for camouflage reasons, units possibly not belonging to the 9th Mees Div are also being entrained and shipped to the USSR.

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- (4) 10 Apr, farewell ceremonies were held by Maj Gen Yakubovski at Schwerin railroad station for two shpmts consisting of 24-85-mm AT guns, at least 25 trucks, and 10 converted boxcars [redacted]

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[redacted] Comment. Beginning of return shpmts of elms 4th Gds AT Brig-GSFG presum to the USSR, [redacted]

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b. Troop Movements within the GDR

- (1) 7/8 Apr, engr unit from Neuruppin presum transferred to Rathenow [redacted].

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[redacted] Comment. The 88th Eng Regt/Second Gds Mecz Army (Tank) presum transferred to Rathenow and there presum occupied the Infanterie-Kaserne and the Pionier-Kaserne [redacted] which so far had quartered elms 6th Arty Div. In spite of observations [redacted] of troop movements and entraining of troops in connection with the abovementioned barracks, it cannot yet be stated whether the elms of 6th Arty Div completely vacated their quarters.

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- (2) 13 Apr, some 12 shpmts from Jueterbog and some 4 shpmts from Wildpark transferred to Magdeburg RED District [redacted].

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[redacted] Comment. [redacted] these shpmts [redacted] might involve shpmts to the Altengrabov-Letzlinger Heide area for exercises, or permanent transfers in connection with the relocation of forces caused by troop return shpmts. The transfer to the USSR possibly involved elms 14th Gds Mecz Div/Third Gds Mecz Army and elms of 10 Gds Tk Div/Fourth Gds Mecz Army. Major exercises would be unusual at this time of year. Transfers to summer camps would also seem very early.

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2. Training

During first week of April, only small-scale training activities were observed outside of posts. Various arty units transferred to Letzlinger Heide and Jueterbog troop tng grounds for short-term firing practices. Observations included:

5 Apr, elms 10th Gds Tk Div Arty Regt and RL Bn returned presum from firing practices held in Letzlinger Heide;  
3-6 Apr, elms 2nd Arty Brig/Second Gds Mecz Army (Tank) transferred to Jueterbog, presum for firing practice;  
1-5 Apr, shpmts presum of arty units to and from Jueterbog for firing practices [redacted].

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[redacted] Comment. The continuation of training in posts with firing practices of individual arty units at troop tng grounds corresponds with the training schedule prior to the transfer to summer camps expected to start in late April.

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II. GDR

Training

Supplementary info on training activities prior to late March includes: betw 19 and 21 March, and betw 23 and 26 March, 1st Mtz Rifle Regt and 2nd Mtz Rifle Regt respectively practiced at troop tng grounds [redacted] west and east of it obviously under same conditions [redacted]

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24/25 Mar. 11st Mtz Rifle Regt practiced in the Angermuende area [redacted]

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late Mar, an exercise was held in the Rudolstadt area with east-bound vehicles of the German Border Police passing through Rudolstadt on 28 Mar, and tank and engr units, particularly the 22nd Mtz Rifle Regt, attacking hills north of Rudolstadt from the east and south-east on 29 Mar [redacted] betw 10 and 20 Mar, 15th Tk Regt was stationed at Nochten tng grounds (deserter 3).

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**D. Air Force**

**I. USSR**

**1. Location of Troops**

**Twenty-Fourth Air Army**

The individual MIG-19 observed with the fighter regiments at Grossenhain, Neuruppin, Parchim and Puetznitz from late Jan to mid-Feb 1958 [ ] were no longer seen [ ]. No MIG-19s have been observed at Gross Doelln airfield for weeks [ ].

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[ ] Comment: [ ] the MIG-19 escadrilles of all-weather fighter regiments transferred only temporarily: appr 8 MIG-19s from Gross Doelln to Rechlin/Laers in mid-Feb 1958, appr 9 MIG-19s from Alt Loennevitz to Zerbst in mid-Jan 1958.

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[ ] MIG-19s have again been stationed in Gross Doelln since late Mar 1958.

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**2. Logistics**

The Soviets have evacuated the air force fuel depot in Finow Eisenpalterei. The fuel containers of the depot have allegedly been taken over again by Schering Plant. On 10 Mar 1958, 3 or 4 15-ton containers were being dug out and, at the same time, a major wearing black-bordered blue epaulets and coming from the former Schering Plant appeared at the depot [ ].

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**II. GDR**

**1. Location of Troops**

[ ] the 2nd Ftr Wing of the NVA/L transferred from Cottbus to Rothenburg in late Feb 1958 [ ].

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[ ] Comment: After the transfer to Bautzen in early Jan 1958, of elements of Kamenz Fighter School which had been stationed in Rothenburg, observations were made [ ] indicating the organization of a new NVA/L unit in Rothenburg.

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[ ] 22 MIG-17Cs and 4 UMIG-15s were parked at the field and believed to form a new fighter wing.

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**2. Logistics**

[ ] technical elements of the depot transferred to Krugau near Luebben in early Mar 1958. Elements so far stationed at Ostritz were retransferred to the main depot of Goerlitz [ ].

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[ ] Comment: [ ] the alert police was scheduled to be transferred from the former Krugau ammunition depot to Cottbus in Mar 1958, while the Krugau ammunition depot was scheduled to be occupied by the NVA/L. Soldiers of the supply depot Goerlitz were billeted at Ostritz.)

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In Nov 1957, the runway at Stolp-Reitz (54 29 N / 17 06 E) airfield was allegedly 3,000 meters long [redacted].

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Comment: [redacted]

[redacted] it is still assumed for the time being that it is 2,400 meters long.)

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**2. Logistics**

AN800 x 20 meters large fuel depot was constructed 500 meters west of the Sandberg (50 48 N / 16 18 E) - Freiburg (50 52 N / 16 20 E) road, just north of Sandberg. By Nov 1957, about 15 tanks, each about 10 meters long and 2.5 meters in diameter were almost completely installed underground. Construction work was interrupted with the beginning of winter. The whole area was fenced-in. The spur track was almost completed [redacted].

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Comment: [redacted] the construction site was to be located almost 2 km further north. The above-mentioned location seems to be not correct. [redacted]

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**IV. Czechoslovakia****Location of Troops**

1. More than 60 MIG-15s were stationed at Sliač (48 38 N / 19 08 E) airfield during the winter months of 1957/58 until Feb 1958 [redacted]

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Comment: [redacted]

[redacted] It may be assumed that (temporarily?) a second fighter regiment is stationed there. [redacted]

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2. In Jan 1958, almost 50 MIG-15s were parked at Kosice-Barca (48 40 N / 21 15 E) airfield [redacted].

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[redacted] Comment: A fighter division headquarters and a fighter regiment are assumed to be stationed at Kosice-Barca.)

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**E. Navy**

**I. USSR**

Unusual Superstructure on a T-34 Minesweeper

[redacted], among other vessels, a T-34 minesweeper [redacted] with an unusual superstructure aft of the funnel measuring about 3 x 3 meters was berthed in Ventspils Harbor. The superstructure had a window on each side and a yellowish dome-shaped design of exactly the same measurements on its top. Alongside the minesweeper lay two submarines [redacted] of the "Shch" Class and [redacted] of the "V" Class [redacted]

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[redacted] Comment. The superstructure aft of the funnel is worth noting, [redacted]

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It consists of a quadrangular stand supported by trellis masts measuring 2 meters in height. A radome set with the same measurements (similar to ECGGCUP) is mounted on the stand. The superstructure, which hampers the operation of the astern gun, seems to be temporary and is presumably being used for trial purposes, possibly in connection with submarine defense exercises (submarines alongside the minesweeper).

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**F. Paramilitary and Paramilitary Organization**

**GDR**

**German Border Police (GDP)**

In a ceremony which took place on 17 March 1958 in the Erfurt area, for the first time members of the 3rd Brig were sworn in and received a flag by the Minister of the Interior, Karl Maron [REDACTED]

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